

A More Perfect Union' Bookshelf Features 17 Classic Books to Support Community Programs

Congresswoman Kaptur announced that Our Lady of Perpetual Help School in Toledo has received a "We, the People" Bookshelf Award from the National Endowment for the Humanities. The award consists of 17 classic books as well as audio-visual materials around the theme of "A More Perfect Union."

Congresswoman Kaptur made the formal announcement on Wednesday, April 21 when she greeted the OLPH students on the steps of the U.S. Capitol. The students are in Washington, D.C. this week on their class trip.

" Congratulations to the school and to entire OLPH community, " Congresswoman Kaptur said. " This wonderful award underscores the values and time-honored principles of American history and culture, especially our constitutional heritage. "

The OLPH School was one of two recipients of the Bookshelf Award from the Ninth Congressional District. The other recipient was the Harris-Elmore Public Library in Ottawa County.

Since 2003, the " We the People" bookshelf program has introduced young readers to great literature and themes from American history. This year's theme is timed to coincide with the commemoration of the Civil War, which began 150 years ago.

"The works in the bookshelf grant help illustrate the motto of our nation-e pluribus unum-out of many, one," Congresswoman Kaptur said. The OLPH Library will receive a set of books along with posters, bookmarks, and other promotional materials through the American Library Association, working in partnership with the NEH.

The award includes Spanish translations to accompany three of the selected titles, as well as bonus materials for library patrons of all ages.

As part of the award, libraries around the country are organizing programs and events to raise awareness about these classic works and to engage young readers through April 30 of next year.

The Bookshelf award includes the following books:

- Kindergarten to Grade 3: Tico and the Golden Wings by Leo Lionni; A More Perfect Union: The Story of Our Constitution by Betsy and Giulio Maestro; Una unión más perfecta: la historia de nuestra constitución by Betsy and Giulio Maestro (translated by Aída E. Marcuse); When Marian Sang: The True Recital of Marian Anderson by Pam Muñoz Ryan
- Grades 4-6: César ¡Sí, se puede! by Carmet T. Bernier-Grand (Spanish edition); César ¡Si, Se Puede! / Yes, We Can! By Carmen T. Bernier-Grand; Eagle Song by Joseph Bruchac; The Great Little Madison by Jean Fritz; Darby by Jonathon Scott Fuqua
- Grades 7-8: Chains by Laurie Halse Anderson; Warriors Don't Cry by Melba Beals; Lincoln Shot: A President's Life Remembered by Barry Denenberg; Hitch by Jeanette Ingold
- Grades 9-12: The Souls of Black Folk by W. E. B. DuBois; American Creation:
 Triumphs and Tragedies at the Founding of the Republic by Joseph Ellis; Lincoln in His
 Own Words by Milton Meltzer; Carver: A Life in Poems by Marilyn Nelson; Twelve Angry
 Men by Reginald Rose; Ángeles asesinos by Michael Shaara (translated by Manuel de los
 Reyes); Killer Angels by Michael Shaara
- Bonus: The Civil War: A Film by Ken Burns; The Civil War: An Illustrated History by Geoffrey Ward, Ric Burns, Ken Burns; Declaring Independence: The Origin and Influence

of America's Founding Document edited by Christian Y. Dupont

Created in 1965 as an independent federal agency, the National Endowment for the Humanities supports learning in history, literature, philosophy, and other areas of the humanities. NEH grants enrich classroom learning, create and preserve knowledge, and bring ideas to life through public television, radio, new technologies, museum exhibitions, and programs in libraries and other community places.

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Additional information about the National Endowment for the Humanities can be found at www.neh.gov.

Additional information about the American Library Association can be found at www.ala.org.